

ADDITIONS TO THE MACROLEPIDOPTERA  
OF YORKSHIRE

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By S. M. JACKSON\*

Since publication in 1970 of *The Lepidoptera of Yorkshire (Macro-lepidoptera)*, compiled by members of the Lepidoptera Committee of the Yorkshire Naturalists' Union, and edited by C. I. Rutherford, there have been 12 additions to the County list as set out below. Nomenclature accords with that of Kloet & Hincks (1972).

*Pseudoips prasinana* L.: Scarce Silver Lines. This species has long been known to occur in N. Lincs., but the first authentic Yorkshire record is of five larvae being beaten from oak at Potteric Carr Nature Reserve (vc. 63) by R. I. Heppenstall in late May 1978. He later took the moth at light at Rossington, near Doncaster (vc. 63) on 28th July 1978.

*Meganola albula* D. & S.: Kent Black Arches. One taken at m.v. light by P.Q. Winter at Muston near Filey (vc.61) on 16th July 1973. This is the first northern record of a species usually found south of London, especially on the coasts of Kent, Sussex and Hants.

*Nola aerugula* Hbn.: Scarce Black Arches. This species was added to the Yorkshire list when Barry Spence took two at light at Kilnsea (vc. 61), one on 26th and one on 27th July 1980.

*Simyra albovenosa* Goeze: Powdered Wainscot or Reed Dagger. Found for the first time in Yorkshire in 1970 when B. Spence took it near the reed bed at Kilnsea (vc. 61). It is now considered to be extinct there as the habitat has been washed into the sea.

*Mythimna vitellina* Hbn.: Delicate. Was taken for the first time in Yorkshire at Muston near Filey (vc. 61), on 11th October 1978, by P. Q. Winter.

*Lithacodia pygarga* Hufn.: Marbled White Spot. Although there is an old record for Wharncliffe Woods from 1872, this was later considered erroneous. Therefore, when several were seen at light on Skipwith Common (vc. 61) on 1st July 1978 by W. Jagger and S. M. Jackson, this was regarded as constituting a new county record. The species has also been seen there annually up to 1981.

*Scopula marginepunctata* Goeze: Mullein Wave. Recorded for the first time in Yorkshire by S. L. Sutton, who took it at Spurn (vc. 61) on 16th August 1972.

*Xanthorhoe quadrifasiata* Clerck: Large Twin-spot Carpet. After recently extending its range into Notts., this species was first noticed in Yorkshire in 1978, by Ray Hawley at Hornsea Mere (vc. 61), and later, A. S. Ezard noted it at Rudston (vc. 61) on 28th July and 18th August 1980.

*Eupithecia insigniata* Hbn.: Pinion-spotted Pug. First found in Yorkshire when Paul Ingham took two at Snainton (vc. 62) on 5th and 6th June 1977. Also taken at East Ayton (vc. 62) in 1979, and at Muston near Filey (vc. 61) on 7th June 1979.

*Chloroclystis chloerata* Mabille: Sloe Pug. First noticed in Yorkshire by P. Q. Winter who found larvae on sloe at Muston on

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4th May 1975, then at Settrington near Malton on 5th May 1976 and at Harpham near Driffield on 1st May 1977 (all in vc. 61). Also found at Wass (vc. 62) by Dr. A. M. R. Heron.

*Semiothisa notata* L.: Peacock Moth. The sole Yorkshire record is of one taken at m.v. light in Staindale near Pickering (vc. 62) on 27th August 1977 by P. Q. Winter and S. M. Jackson.

*Deileptenia ribeata* Clerck: Satin Beauty. This species, long known to occur in N. Lancashire, was not noticed in Yorkshire until August 1974 when S. M. Jackson recognised some worn specimens (by their pectinated antennae), which came to m.v. light operated by W. Jagger near Pickering. The species, probably previously confused with *Alcis repandata* L., is now known to be widespread in north-east Yorkshire, with further records from Wass, Scarborough, Buttercrambe Woods (1980 and 1981) and Pickering (all in vc. 62).

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**Moths of Southern Africa** by E. C. G. Pinhey. 273pp. 63 col. pl. + 18 fig. 4to. Cloth. Pub. A. A. Balkema (Rotterdam) 1979. £21.75.

To attempt to cover the moths of Southern Africa, estimated as exceeding 10,000 species, in a single volume is a daunting task. This volume describes and illustrates some 1183 species selected from the majority of families as representing the more colourful or interesting species, or those of economic importance. The vast bulk come from the families of larger moths. Introductory chapters cover general characteristics and biology, collecting, rearing and preparing insects and identification and classification.

The bulk of the text comprises the systematic section. The general format provides keys to families where appropriate. A description of the family is given and there follows a treatment of selected genera. Each genus has the reference to its original description, synonymy and name of type species. Individual species are similarly treated with a description of salient features (usually wing patterns), notes on larvae (where known) and distribution.

In a work of this nature, the illustrations are of paramount importance. The plates are made from photographs of set specimens and on the whole are of excellent quality. The specimens are photographed against a variety of coloured backgrounds, predominately white and blue/green. The latter is very effective for light coloured insects but unfortunately many white-winged moths are pictured against white backgrounds making identification impossible. Each specimen is numbered to enable easy reference to the text description. The work concludes with a glossary, bibliography and three indices — to pest species, host plants, and a general index.

On the whole, the author has produced a readable and useful work, although the juxtaposition of general introduction and detailed references to original descriptions suggests an attempt to cater for too wide a readership. The presentation of the volume is very good and there is an attractive, painted frontispiece. Considering the quality and quantity of the illustrations, the price represents very good value. — PAUL SOKOLOFF.